

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS



Please amend the claims as follows:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Withdrawn) A method of making a composition for the treatment or prevention of a disease selected from the group consisting of non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, syndrome X, hyperlipidaemia, hypertension, hyperinsulinaemia, hypercholesterinaemia, hypertriglycerinaemia, impaired glucose tolerance and related obesity comprising combining phytanic acid or a phytanic acid derivative with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
2. (Withdrawn) A composition for the prevention of non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus comprising phytanic acid or a derivative thereof.
3. (Withdrawn) A composition according to claim 2 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
4. (Withdrawn) A composition according to claim 3 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is selected from the group consisting of diluent, filler, disintegrate, wetting agent, lubricant, colorant, flavorant, adjuvants, and combinations thereof.
5. (Withdrawn) A composition according to claim 4 wherein the carrier is selected from the group consisting of microcrystalline cellulose, starch, sodium starch

glycollate, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinylpolypyrrolidone, magnesium stearate, sodium lauryl sulfate, sucrose, and combinations thereof.

6. (Withdrawn) A composition according to claim 2 comprising from about 0.1 to about 1000 mg of phytanic acid or a derivative thereof.

7. (Withdrawn) A composition according to claim 6 comprising from about 0.1 to about 500 mg of phytanic acid or a derivative thereof.

8. (Withdrawn) A composition according to claim 7 comprising from about 0.1 to about 100 mg of phytanic acid or a derivative thereof.

9. (Withdrawn) A dietary supplement comprising a composition according to claim 2.

10. (Currently amended). A method of treating or preventing non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus comprising administering to a human or an animal an effective dose of a pharmaceutical composition or a dietary supplement comprising from about 0.1 to about 1000 mg of phytanic acid, ~~a phytanic acid precursor~~, or a derivative of phytanic acid.

11. (Currently amended). A method according to claim 10 wherein the phytanic acid derivative, ~~or phytanic acid precursor~~ is derived from phytanic acid.

12. (Currently amended). A method according to claim 10 wherein the phytanic acid derivative ~~or phytanic acid precursor~~ is derived from phytenic acid.

13. (Currently amended). A method according to claim 10 wherein the phytanic acid derivative or ~~phytanic acid precursor~~ is selected from the group consisting of ~~phytol, hydroxy-phytanic acid,~~ phytanic esters, phytanic amides, hydroxy-phytanic esters, hydroxy-phytanic amides, hydroxy-phytenic acid, ~~phytenic esters, phytenic amides, hydroxy-phytenic esters, hydroxy-phytenic amides,~~ and combinations thereof.

20. (New). A method according to claim 10, wherein the effective dose is from about 0.1 to about 500 mg.

21. (New). A method according to claim 10, wherein the effective dose is from about 0.1 to about 100 mg.

22. (New). A method according to claim 10, wherein the effective dose results in a daily dose of the phytanic acid of about 0.1 to about 50 mg/kg body weight.

23. (New). A method according to claim 10, wherein the effective dose results in a daily dose of the phytanic acid of about 0.5 to about 40 mg/kg/day.

24. (New). A method according to claim 10, wherein the effective dose results in a daily dose of the phytanic acid of about 1.0 to about 20 mg/kg/day.